

常世の理

岡田屋鉄蔵





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[sen] tokoyo no ri  
by okadaya tetuzoh

scans/translation/editing:  
anonymous

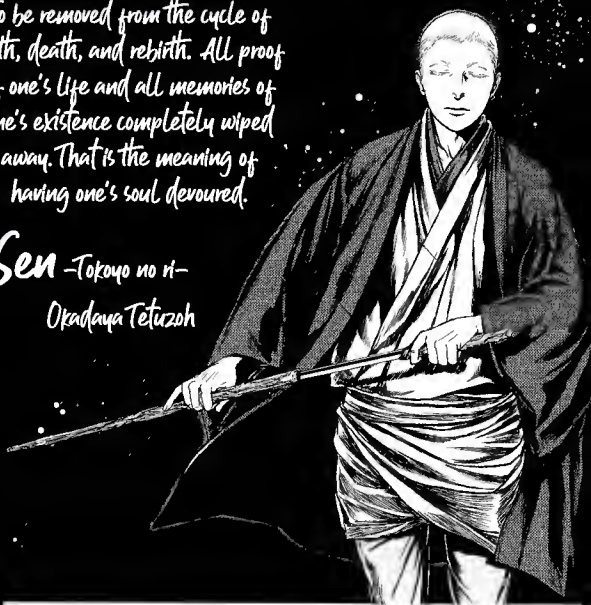
please purchase manga  
if you are able to

(note: last four pages are images  
from Sensei's blogs)



To be removed from the cycle of birth, death, and rebirth. All proof of one's life and all memories of one's existence completely wiped away. That is the meaning of having one's soul devoured.

## Sen -Tokoyo no ri- Okadaya Tetuzoh

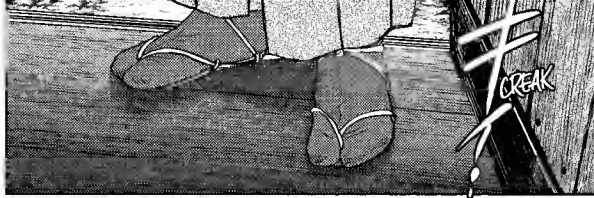


*Summary:* called a "contractor" or "soul eater," blind man Sensai grants people wishes in exchange for their souls. Because of sins in his past, he continues to live perpetually in the form of a young man, but why he exists and why he eats souls remain mysteries. Continuously summoned by souls, he's lost the sight in one eye during his travels, and his five senses have become numb. He feels only pain. Thanks to one case, he made the acquaintance of a swordsman. Kusanagi Chikara found himself intrigued by Sensai and they've been traveling and working together ever since. The heartbreaking wishes of those who request contracts, and the ugliness of the world that created them, swallowing these into his body has taken more of an emotional toll on Sensai than he cares to admit.

The story so far can be enjoyed in Hakusensha's Sen Series.

# 第一話 寝子

**Episode One:  
Sleeping Child**





LEGITIMATE?

IT'S AN ENORMOUSLY EXPENSIVE KAGEMA TEAHOUSE.

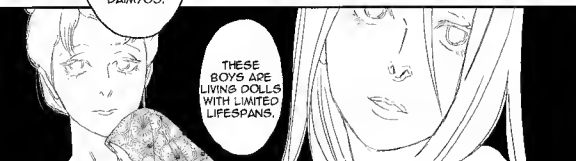
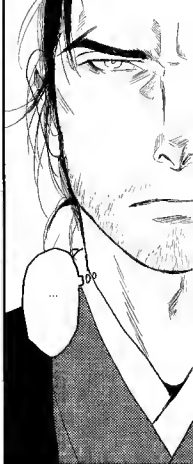
THESE BOYS ARE HIGH CLASS PROSTITUTES CALLED "NEKOS."

THEIR CUSTOMERS ARE GOVERNMENT MINISTERS, ARISTOCRATS, EVEN DAIMYOS.

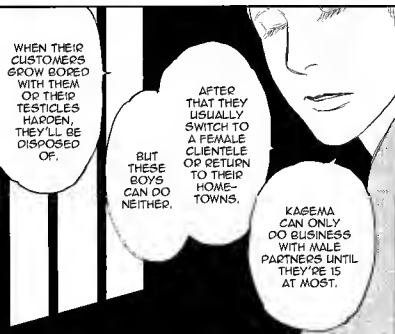


WHAT IS THIS PLACE...?

IS THIS A LEGITIMATE GOVERNMENT ORPHANAGE?



THESE BOYS ARE LIVING DOLLS WITH LIMITED LIFESPANS.



WHEN THEIR CUSTOMERS GROW BORED WITH THEM OR THEIR TESTICLES HARDEN, THEY'LL BE DISPOSED OF.

BUT THESE BOYS CAN DO NEITHER.

AFTER THAT THEY USUALLY SWITCH TO A FEMALE CLIENTELE OR RETURN TO THEIR HOMETOWNS.

KAGEMA CAN ONLY DO BUSINESS WITH MALE PARTNERS UNTIL THEY'RE 15 AT MOST.



LIMITED LIFESPANS?



THEY  
CAN'T LIVE  
IN THE  
OUTSIDE  
WORLD,

IF  
THEY'RE  
LUCKY  
THEY CAN  
WORK  
HERE,  
BUT...



YOU-  
YOU MEAN  
THEY'LL BE  
KILLED!?

THAT'S AN  
UNFORGIV-  
ABLE OUT-  
RAGE.  
  
AND  
BY THE  
GOVERN-  
MENT!

UGH!

FROM  
THE  
THE  
THE  
THE  
OF THE  
WORLD

NEKOS  
ARE  
VALLI-  
ABLE  
COM-  
MODI-  
TIES  
THESE  
DAYS.  
  
PROVID-  
ING THE  
AMUSE-  
MENT OF  
FLEETING  
BLOS-  
SOMS,

CLANS  
INHABITING  
LAND TOO  
BARREN TO  
EVEN PRODUCE  
POTATOES WILL  
OFFER A BOY  
IN ORDER TO  
SURVIVE.

THEY'RE  
NO LONGER  
HUMAN.



WHO'S TO  
COMPLAIN?

THEY  
KNOW  
NOTHING  
OF THE  
WORLD  
OUTSIDE.

THESE  
BOYS HAVE  
BEEN TRAINED  
HERE AS  
NEKOS SINCE  
BEFORE  
THEY CAN  
REMEMBER.

A SINGLE  
NEKO CAN  
GET A VILLAGE  
THROUGH THE  
WINTER.







CURSE  
THIS BODY  
THAT CAN DO NOTHING.

AT LEAST I  
CAN WORK TO  
ENSURE THESE  
NEKOS HAVE  
A GOOD LIFE.

I'M  
NOT EVEN  
SUITABLE TO  
LEAVE BEHIND  
AN HEIR. MY  
BROTHER  
STOLE THE  
POSITION  
OF DAIMYO  
FROM ME.

BUT  
AS YOU  
CAN SEE,  
PHYSI-  
CALLY...

THE EXIS-  
TENCE OF  
NEKOS IS  
CERTAINLY  
DUE TO THE  
COUNTRY'S  
NEGLECTANCE.

I DIDN'T  
CHOOSE  
THIS ROLE.



YOUR  
HEALTH  
SEEMS  
PRETTY  
DIRE

BUT  
EVEN  
THAT  
NOW...



AND  
YOUR  
WISH?



HEH  
HEH.

I'M TOLD  
I HAVE SIX  
MONTHS.



A SOUND  
BODY AND  
FLOURISH-  
ING OFF-  
SPRING.



THAT  
DOESN'T  
MAKE  
SENSE



IT WILL BE  
AS IF YOU,  
AND ANY OFF-  
SPRING YOU  
MAY HAVE HAD,  
NEVER EX-  
ISTED.

SUCH  
IS THE  
CONTRACT  
OF SOUL  
EATING.

I'LL EAT  
YOUR SOUL  
ONCE YOU  
DIE.

EVEN IF  
YOUR ILL-  
NESS IS  
CURED AND  
YOU'RE  
GRANTED  
LONGEVITY...



I WON'T  
BE MAKING  
THE CON-  
TRACT.

OF  
COURSE.  
I UNDER-  
STAND.





AS  
YOU  
WISH.

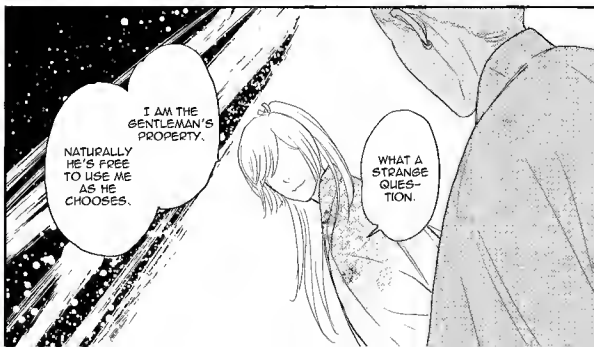


I'D LIKE  
TO TALK TO  
SASHO A  
LITTLE.



...KAGENOBU  
BE TAKING  
ADVANTAGE  
OF YOU  
LIKE THIS?

SHOULD...



NATURALLY  
HE'S FREE  
TO USE ME  
AS HE  
CHOOSSES.

I AM THE  
GENTLEMAN'S  
PROPERTY.

WHAT A  
STRANGE  
QUES-  
TION.



DO YOU  
STILL  
WANT TO  
DO IT?

YOU KNOW,  
IF YOU SACRI-  
FICE YOURSELF  
TO FULFILL  
THE CONTRACT,  
KAGENOBU  
WILL FORGET  
YOU.

THAT  
DOESN'T  
MATTER



STILL,  
HE TOLD  
ME IN AD-  
VANCE.

HOW  
KIND  
HE IS.



IF YOU  
CAN SAVE HIM  
WITH MY SOUL,  
NOTHING  
COULD MAKE  
ME HAPPIER!

I CAN'T  
LIVE IF HE  
DIES.

BUT KAGE-  
NOBU-SAMA  
KEPT ME ON  
AND CONTIN-  
UED TO BE  
AFFECTIONATE.

I BECAME  
WORTHLESS  
AS A NEKO  
LONG AGO.



I UNDER-  
STAND THE  
EFFECTS  
WILL TAKE  
HALF AN  
HOUR.



WHAT'S  
THAT?



dink









KAGENO-  
BU-SAMA,  
YOU'RE  
HEALTHY!



YES!

I FEEL  
ENERGY  
WELLING  
UP IN MY  
ENTIRE  
BODY!



FOR THE  
SAKE OF  
A MAN WHO  
DOESN'T  
EVEN CALL  
HIM BY HIS  
NAME.

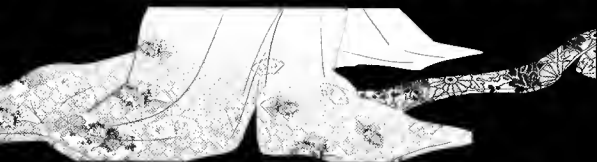
HE  
WON'T  
GET  
CREDIT.  
HE  
WON'T  
GET  
THANKS.



IT WAS  
SWEET.

NO.

WAS THE  
MEDICINE  
BITTER?





drip

drip

drip



I DIDN'T  
WANT TO  
STAY IN THAT  
PLACE ANY  
MORE THAN  
YOU DID.

I'M  
SORRY,  
DANNA.

DON'T  
WORRY.



I JUST  
CAN'T  
BEAR IT

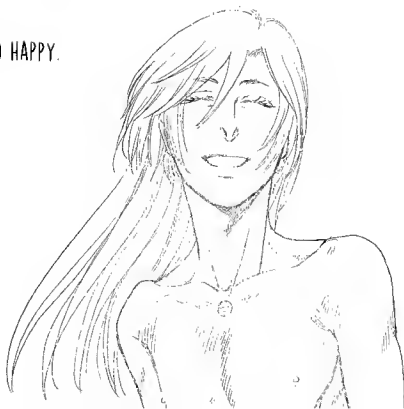
I CAN'T  
BEAR IT.

I FEEL  
NOTHING  
BUT JOY  
FROM  
SASHO'S  
SOUL.

I'M SO HAPPY...

...KAGENOBU-SAMA...

SO HAPPY.



# 第二話

## 昔話

Episode 2:  
Once Upon a Time











I HOPE I  
CAN NURSE  
HIM BACK  
TO HEALTH.



DANNA?

OI...!



DAMN,  
HE'S RE-  
LAPSING.

CHILLS

SPASM  
SPASM



wheel

wheel

SHIVER  
SHIVER  
SHIVER

DANNA?



blub  
blub  
blub

IF HIS FEVER  
DOESN'T GO DOWN,  
HE WON'T LAST  
UNTIL MORNING.

IT'S BEEN SEVEN  
DAYS. HIS PHYSI-  
CAL STRENGTH HAS  
REACHED ITS LIMIT.



I DON'T  
THINK HE'D  
HAVE ANY  
REGRETS  
ABOUT THAT.

BUT  
STILL...

HE'LL NEVER  
HAVE CHILDREN.  
HIS LINE WILL END,  
PETERING OUT  
IN THIS ISOLATED  
HINTERLAND.



EAT  
MY  
SOUL.



...TO  
GO,  
SEN.

IT'S  
TIME  
FOR  
ME...



HOWEVER  
WEAK YOU  
MAY BE...

DANNA,  
THAT'S  
NOT  
LIKE  
YOU.



YOU'LL BE  
HALE AND  
HEARTY  
AGAIN

...IT'S  
STILL  
TOO  
SOON





HOW  
FOOL-  
ISH.

...TO  
THINK  
YOU'VE  
CONSID-  
ERED  
SOME-  
THING LIKE  
THIS.



BUT...



I HAD A  
STRANGE  
DREAM THAT  
NIGHT.







NO. I...

STEP  
RIGHT UP!  
TO FORTUNE  
TELLER  
SENSEI!

COME  
COME!



HUBBUB

THE  
FORTUNE  
TELLER  
IS  
PETRIFIED  
WITH FEAR.

HUBBUB

?

WHAT'S  
THIS?



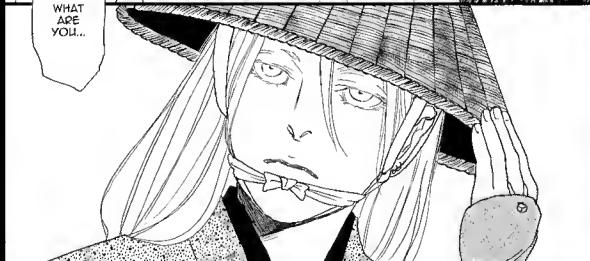
GO ON,  
TAKE A  
GUESS.

O-OI,  
WHAT  
IS IT?



WHA-...!

WHAT  
ARE  
YOU...



HUBBUB

WHAT THE  
HELL ARE  
YOU...!?

HUBBUB



I FI-  
NALLY  
FOUND  
YOU!

THUD  
THUD  
THUD



YOU!  
WITH  
THE  
WHITE  
HAIR!

O-  
OII!

OII.

OI, I  
SAID!



EHP



KNOOS!

HEY!

WAIT!

WHAT!?

YOU'RE  
COMING  
WITH ME!

EXCUSE  
ME!



EITHER  
WAY,  
DON'T  
DRAG  
ME  
INTO  
IT.

Too  
late!

WE'RE BOTH  
MEMBERS OF  
THE SHAMAN  
CLAN, BUT WHEN  
THEY SAW YOUR  
SUPERIOR POWERS,  
THEY DROVE ME  
OUT FOR THE  
GENUINE  
ARTICLE!

THERE'S  
NEVER  
BEEN A  
SINGLE  
PERSON I  
COULDN'T  
READ  
UNTIL  
NOW.

THAT  
SHRINE  
GANG...

FOUND  
OUT YOU'RE  
A PHONY  
FORTUNE  
TELLER AND  
THEY'RE  
AFTER YOU?

I'M  
NOT  
PHONY!

WHAT  
DO YOU  
WANT  
WITH-  
OH.

STOP  
RIGHT  
THERE  
!!

FROM NOW  
ON, I'M KEEP-  
ING MY EYES  
HALF SHUT SO  
I SEE ONLY  
BLAND AND IN-  
OFFENSIVE  
SIGHTS.

THANKS TO  
BEING DRAGGED  
AROUND THE  
COUNTRY BE-  
CAUSE OF MY  
POWERS, I'VE  
BEEN THROUGH  
HELL WHERE-  
EVER I GO.

WHETHER  
IT'S BUCKETS  
OF CRIMSON  
BLOOD, OR THE  
CRUEL JOKES  
OF THE GODS,  
SHAMANS SEE  
TOO MUCH.

IF I  
PUT MY  
MIND TO IT,  
I SEE IT ALL.  
PAST LIVES,  
SINS, WHEN  
SOMEONE  
IS GOING TO  
DIE. I CAN  
SEE EV-  
ERYTHING.



BUT!

IF IT'S  
TOO HARD  
TO SEE,  
DON'T LOOK.  
DOESN'T  
MATTER  
TO ME.

SOP?

BUT WHEN  
IT COMES  
TO YOU...



TELL ME  
HOW YOU  
DO IT!

HOW DO  
YOU STAY  
OUT OF  
SIGHT?

?



THAT'S  
WHAT I  
WANT TO  
KNOW!

...THERE  
MUST BE  
A WAY  
NOT TO  
SEE.

IF THERE  
IS A WAY  
NOT TO  
BE SEEN...



OH, I  
UNDER-  
STAND.



...I  
CAN'T  
SEE  
ANY-  
THING  
EVEN  
WHEN I  
STRAIN  
MY EYES  
LOOK-  
ING.  
NO  
PAST,  
NO  
FUTURE,  
NO  
PRES-  
ENT,  
NO-  
THING  
AT  
ALL.

IT  
ISN'T  
JUST  
MISTY,

BUT  
COAL  
BLACK.



WHAT IS IT?

DON'T BELIEVE ME?

DOESN'T MATTER.

NOT WHO I AM, OR WHERE I'M FROM...

THE FACT IS, I DON'T EVEN KNOW IF THE TIME WILL COME WHEN I'LL DIE.

I HAVE THE FORM OF A HUMAN BEING, BUT I'M NOT CONVINCED I AM A HUMAN BEING.

THAT MAY BE WHY YOU "CAN'T SEE ANYTHING."

SORRY, I CAN'T HELP YOU. I KNOW NOTHING ABOUT MYSELF.

I... WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?

UM...  
OI.

DO YOU...

ANYWAY, DON'T GET INVOLVED WITH ME. NO GOOD WILL COME OF IT.

...HAVE A NAME?

SENSAI

SHINE

SHINE

VOOM





INSTEAD  
I'M KNOWN  
AS A SOUL  
EATER

I'VE  
DISAP-  
PEARED

I HAVE NO  
PLACE TO  
RETURN TO.  
NOBODY  
TO REMEM-  
BER ME.

IF I'M  
DEAD,  
WHO  
CARES.

IS  
IT?

YOU'RE  
A CON-  
TRAC-  
TOR...

AMAZ-  
ING.

CON-  
TRACTOR  
SIR, WHAT  
HAPPENED  
TO YOU?







YOU'LL SEE  
MORE THAN  
EVER THE  
HUMAN DEEDS  
YOU DON'T  
WANT TO SEE.

IF YOU  
FOLLOW ME,  
YOUR LIFE  
WILL BE IN  
DANGER AT  
ALL TIMES.



SO HOW  
LONG ARE  
YOU GOING  
TO STICK  
AROUND?

HMM.

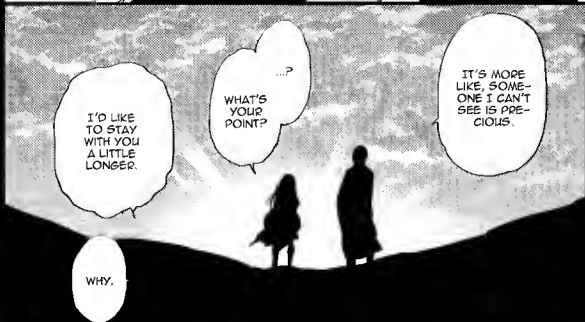
HMP?



THE  
SEEING IS  
NOTHING  
NEW AND...

I HAVE  
NO RE-  
GRETTS  
ABOUT  
MY LIFE,  
AND...

HMM, I  
SUPPOSE  
THAT MAY  
BE TRUE,  
BUT...



I'D LIKE  
TO STAY  
WITH YOU  
A LITTLE  
LONGER.

...?  
WHAT'S  
YOUR  
POINT?

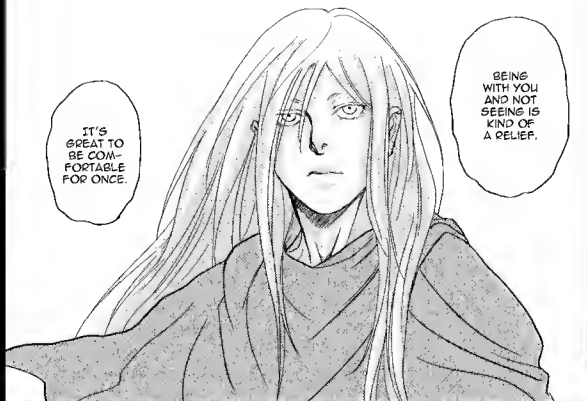
IT'S MORE  
LIKE, SOME-  
ONE I CAN'T  
SEE IS PRE-  
CIOUS.

WHY.



IT'S  
AWKWARD  
SAYING IT  
RIGHT TO  
YOUR FACE,  
BUT...  
WELL,  
THE  
THING  
IS...

WHY?  
YOU'RE  
UNIQUE.



IT'S  
GREAT TO  
BE COM-  
FORTABLE  
FOR ONCE.

BEING  
WITH YOU  
AND NOT  
SEEING IS  
KIND OF  
A RELIEF.



LOOK  
WHO'S  
TALKING!  
Ha  
ha  
ha!

...  
...  
YOU'RE A  
STRANGE  
ONE.



...OUT  
OF THE  
QUES-  
TION?

SO...  
IS IT...



YAAAY!

...  
...  
WHAT-  
EVER.  
DO AS  
YOU  
PLEASE.



MY LUCK  
HAS RUN  
OUT...



I'M SORRY  
TO MAKE  
YOU ATTEND  
TO ME IN MY  
FINAL MO-  
MENTS.

I GUESS  
MY TIME  
HAS COME.

IT'S  
ONLY  
BEEN  
FORTY  
YEARS.

DON'T  
SAY  
THAT!



MY LOWER  
BODY IS  
STUCK IN  
THE ROCKS.  
I CAN'T  
MOVE.

NO  
MATTER  
HOW YOU  
LOOK AT  
IT, THAT'S  
IMPOS-  
SIBLE.



DON'T  
TALK, I'LL  
GET YOU  
OUT!



THEY  
REALLY  
FLEW BY.

HA  
HA!  
THAT'S  
RIGHT.  
ONLY  
FORTY  
YEARS.



...I'M  
GIVING  
YOU THE  
REST OF  
MY LIVES.

...

NO  
MATTER  
HOW MANY  
TIMES I'M  
REINCAR-  
NATED,  
THE YEARS  
WILL NEVER  
TASTE AS  
SWEET.

THEY  
WERE  
THE  
BEST  
FORTY  
YEARS.

THAT'S  
WHY...

AH, WELL,  
I'M COM-  
PLETELY  
SATISFIED.  
YES, COM-  
PLETELY.



BECOME  
HUMAN.  
SENSAI

I'M NOT  
DEAD YET,  
AM I.

HURRY  
UP, MAKE  
THE CON-  
TRACT.

I  
KNOW  
YOU  
CAN'T  
REFUSE.

YOU CAN'T  
REFUSE, IF  
THE PERSON  
CONTRACT-  
ING STATES  
IT THAT WAY.

IT'S A  
CON-  
TRACT.



LIS-  
TEN...

...

AND  
THEN BE  
BORN  
AGAIN.

SPEND  
YOUR OLD  
AGE SUR-  
ROUNDED  
BY GRAND-  
CHILDREN  
TO LOOK  
AFTER YOU.

BECOME  
HUMAN,  
GET MAR-  
RIED, HAVE  
CHILDREN.  
  
LIVE A  
NORMAL,  
OLD-FASH-  
IONED LIFE.

AND  
YOU'LL  
LAUGH,  
AND...

YOU'LL  
CRY...

TAKE  
THEM.

COME  
ON.



MAKE  
THE CON-  
TRACT





YOUR  
FEVER'S  
DOWN.  
  
YOU'RE  
NOT IN  
DANGER  
ANY  
LONGER.

OH...  
THAT WAS  
NO DREAM.



...I DON'T  
THINK  
THERE'S  
ANY WAY  
OUT OF IT

AND...













THIS MAN  
STAYS DEEP  
IN THE  
MOUNTAINS.

BURIED  
AMONG  
THE TREES,  
COVERED IN  
MOSS....

HE ISN'T ALIVE,  
HE ISN'T DEAD,  
HE JUST STAYS  
ON HERE...

# 千

— 常世の理 —

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